

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1384

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 3333

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

BRUSSELS FOR MOOSE

FROM LOW

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PDEV, RH

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: HIGHLIGHTS OF SALISBURY MEETINGS

REF: PRETORIA 3281

1. FOLLOWING ARE THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING WITH
CHIEF CHIRAU OF ZAPU ON JUNE 8.

2. AFTER EXPLAINING TO CHIEF CHIRAU AND HIS INTERPRETER,
MER. MUTUMBA, THE PURPOSE OF OUR VISIT TO SALISBURY
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AND OUR INTENDED MEANS OF OPERATION DURING THE NEXT
FEW WEEKS, THE CHIEF SAID HE HAD TWO QUESTIONS TO ASK
US. FIRST, IN WHAT CAPACITY WOULD THE SALISBURY
PARTICIPANTS BE INVITED TO THE ALL-PARTIES MEETING--AS
A GOVERNMENT OR AS INDIVIDUAL PARTIES? WE REPLIED THAT
IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR US TO RECOGNIZE ANY GOVERNMENT
BASED ON THE 1969 CONSTITUTION. HOWEVER, WE WOULD

CERTAINLY NOT INSIST THAT THE SALISBURY GROUP COME AS SEPARATE PARTIES IF THEY DID NOT WISH TO. WE COULD, FOR INSTANCE, ISSUE AN INVITATION TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AS AN ENTITY.

3. CHIEF CHIRAU THEN ASKED WHETHER WE HAD ANY NEW PROPOSALS TO OFFER SINCE OUR LAST VISIT ON APRIL 17. WE DISCUSSED THE PROPOSAL AS IT HAS DEVELOPED SINCE DAR AND INDICATED THE BASIC PRINCIPLES WHICH WE FELT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR ANY SETTLEMENT ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH PARTIES. AT THAT POINT, CHIEF CHIRAU ASKED THAT SOMEONE COME IN TO TAKE NOTES. WE THEN REVIEWED THE POINTS WE HAD MADE TO THAT STAGE OF THE CONVERSATION FOR A RHODESIAN, MR. STEWART (A KNOWN SPECIAL BRANCH MEMBER).

4. THE CHIEF ASKED WHETHER HAVING CONVEYED THIS INFORMATION WE WOULD THEN GO AWAY AND ISSUE AN INVITATION TO THE CONFERENCE. WE EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT WE HAD NO INTENTION OF EMBARRASSING OR PRESSURING HIM OR THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL INTO A MEETING. IT COULD ONLY BE SUCCESSFUL IF THEY CAME BECAUSE THEY SAW, AS WE DID, THAT A SOLUTION WAS NECESSARY WHICH COULD BRING AN END TO THE WAR AND ORDERLY PROGRESS TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE AND MAJORITY RULE. THE CHIEF ASKED WITH WHOM WE WERE MEETING, AND WE INFORMED HIM THAT IT HAD BEEN ARRANGED CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT WE WOULD MEET ON WEDNESDAY MORNING WITH THE DEPUTIES TO THE COUNCIL MINISTERS. HE ASKED WHETHER WE WOULD MEET THEM INDIVIDUALLY OR AS A GROUP, AND AGAIN WE SAID THAT WAS UP TO THEM. WE WOULD MEET ANYONE, ANY WAY, THEY WISHED. IN THIS CASE, WE HAD BEEN INFORMED THEY WOULD MEET US AS A GROUP AND WE WERE QUITE SATISFIED WITH THAT. OUR EFFORT WAS TO ASSIST IN FINDING THE BASIS OF A SETTLEMENT. EDMONDSON

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